

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 049662  
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:WBRUBECK:BH  
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY  
S/S-PETER TARNOFF  
INR:HNSAUNDERS

-----044602 252221Z /64  
O 252215Z FEB 78 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 049662

NODIS  
FOR AMBASSADOR AND ATHERTON FROM THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR

SUBJECT: ATHERTON MEETINGS WITH DAYAN AND BEGIN

REF: TEL AVIV 2569

1. WE APPRECIATE THE FORCE OF ARGUMENTS REFTEL AND HAVE GIVEN THEM CAREFUL CONSIDERATION. WE AGREE THAT LEGAL ARGUMENTS ARE NOT GOING TO CONVINCE BEGIN. WE DID NOT INTEND TO MAKE THEM PARAMOUNT AND SIMPLY WANTED TO ADD THESE ARGUMENTS TO YOUR ARSENAL. NEVERTHELESS, GIVEN POSITIONS HERE, WE BELIEVE CONTINUED EMPHASIS ON THE LEGAL CASE (WHICH IS ALSO POLITICAL) IS TACTICALLY IMPORTANT IN THE LARGER STRATEGY THAT WE ARE FOLLOWING IN DEALING WITH THIS CENTRAL ISSUE OF ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL. WE CERTAINLY AGREE THAT ARGUMENTS FROM HISTORY AND LAW SHOULD NOT BE USED TO THE EXCLUSION OF THE IMMEDIATE PRACTICAL ARGUMENT

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REGARDING ESSENTIALITY OF ACCEPTING NECESSITY FOR ALL FRONTS WITHDRAWAL IN ORDER TO ENGAGE SADAT AND HUSSEIN IN CONSTRUCTIVE NEGOTIATIONS; BUT WE FEEL IT IMPORTANT THAT THESE ARGUMENTS SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE MADE AS PART OF THE CASE.

2. WE WILL LEAVE TO YOU AND ATHERTON TO JUDGE, IN THE

CONTEXT OF THE ACTUAL DISCUSSIONS, HOW AND HOW FAR TO  
PRESS THESE ARGUMENTS IN ANY PARTICULAR MEETING. YOU  
SHOULD BEAR IN MIND, HOWEVER, THAT AN IMPORTANT PART OF  
OUR PURPOSE IS TO PREPARE BEGIN, WHEN HE COMES TO  
WASHINGTON, FOR THE NECESSITY TO DEAL WITH THE WITHDRAWAL  
ISSUE NOT ONLY IN TERMS OF ITS PRACTICAL IMPORTANCE TO  
SADAT AND HUSSEIN, BUT ALSO IN TERMS OF ISRAEL'S LEGAL  
AND HISTORICAL OBLIGATIONS. THESE ARE, AMONG OTHER  
THINGS, IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS TO A LARGER GROUP OF  
PARTICIPANTS IN THE ONGOING DISCUSSION, AS WELL AS MATTERS  
OF A KIND TO WHICH BEGIN HIMSELF HAS ALWAYS ATTACHED  
GREAT IMPORTANCE.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, NEGOTIATIONS, PEACE PLANS, CAT-B  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE049662  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** WBRUBECK:BH  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Subject:** ATHERTON MEETINGS WITH DAYAN AND BEGIN  
**TAGS:** PEPR, PBOR, IS, US, XF, (DAYAN, MOSHE), (ATHERTON, A L JR), (BEGIN, MENACHEM)  
**To:** TEL AVIV  
**Type:** TE  
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